

The Maine Farmer.

August, Thursday, Aug. 6, 1888.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

\$5.00 in advance, or \$5.00 if not paid within three months of the date of subscription.

These terms will be rigidly adhered to in all cases.

All payments made by subscribers to the Farmer will be credited in accordance with our usual method.

The printer of the paper, in connection with the subscription, will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for money received by him.

A subscriber desiring to change the post-office direction of his paper must communicate to the name of the office to which it has previously been sent, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

COLLECTOR'S NOTICE.

Mr. V. A. DANA is now engaged in collecting Cornish County.

Mr. T. B. BAZILL will call upon our subscribers in Knox County during the month of August.

Change of Publication Day.

The recent change in the days for holding the Brighton and Cambridge Cattle Markets from Tuesdays and Wednesdays to Thursdays and Fridays, necessitates a corresponding change in our time of publication.

The paper will, therefore, be printed hereafter on Thursdays instead of Tuesdays.

By availing ourselves of existing mail facilities, we hope to be able to reach our subscribers with full and reliable reports of transactions in these markets at as early a day as any of our agricultural contemporaries, in Boston or elsewhere.

The Hydrographic Survey.

The report of the Commissioners of the Hydrographic Survey of Maine, and the more elaborate report of Walter White, Esq., the Secretary of the Board, containing about 300 pages and giving in detail the results of the Survey, will be issued in a few weeks, and it is believed will fully justify the interest in the subject which has been excited in the public mind.

The Augusta correspondent of the Boston Advertiser who has had access to the report of the Commissioners, favors that paper with the following resume of important facts connected with the Survey:

"In the discharge of their duties, the commissioners have been able to ascertain the exact configuration of the State, and the extraordinary facilities it affords for the production of wealth and the maintenance of a large population. The train of circumstances which led to the establishment of the Survey, and the hindrance in the way of its progress, are stated at length. Matters of historic interest are given, in regard to the settlement of the State, and the whole circuit of the outline boundaries of the State is about 940 miles; but it is believed that the labor of the coast survey will make the shore line of the main lake from Kittery Point to Quoddy Head, about 3000 miles, in a direct line it is only 226 miles.

Between Cape Elizabeth and Cape Rosier, 90 miles on an air line, the distance is only 120 miles, following the line of the coast.

Tables are given showing the distances upon the coast; elevations on the eastern and western boundaries; the boundary from the interior to the coast; the elevation of the eastern boundary line, to the northwest corner of the State, between Maine and New Hampshire; elevations on the coast, Penobscot and Kennebec rivers, and the principal elevations on the interior; the map of Maine, ordered by the legislature in 1867, which is in preparation, will give the accurate distances of the eastern, northern, western and northern boundaries in an interesting feature upon it. It is designed to embody on this map the results of all previous surveys and explorations.

As agriculture is greatly influenced by the comparative elevation of the earth's surface and the proximity of lakes and mountains, and as the resources of the State depend upon the climate, and the amount of rainfall, is an element in estimating the value of water power, the commissioners have thought it advisable to embody in their report, a table of the elevations of the surface of the State, and the amount of rainfall, which were able to gather as to the topographical and physical geography of the State. With all the facts at command, it is ascertained that the average elevation of the surface of the State is about 1000 feet, nearly equal to that of Moosehead lake, 1071 feet above tide water, and situated but a little to the north of the State.

The extraordinary amount of available water power found within the limits of Maine, which the commissioners claim exceeds that of any other portion of the eastern coast, is the result of its peculiar configuration and its geological structure. Occupying the center of the Aoudian mountains on its southwest side, between that great estuary the St. Lawrence on one side and the Atlantic on the other, the interior is so elevated above the level of the sea as to secure a large and uniform amount of rainfall, while the low, marshy areas, near the most direct route to the coast, run nearly at right angles in their general course with the rock strata.

The great natural divisions of the State are given as follows:

1st. The upper basin of the St. John, including those districts lying upon the waters of the Madawaska and Presque Isle, St. John, and the Kennebec, by Great Britain, containing 622 square miles of territory, or 386,969 acres, the entire basin being divided into the present time, into an aggregate of 7688 square miles, or 4,890,293 acres.

2d. The Penobscot basin, 8200 square miles, or 5,140,000 acres.

3d. The Kennebec basin, 5250 square miles, or 3,260,000 acres.

4th. The Androscoggin basin, including those portions lying in New Hampshire, whose waters are drained through our State, and which form the hydrographic basin, equal to 4000 square miles or 2,560,000 acres, of which 8500 square miles or 2,240,000 acres lie within the limits of the State.

5th. The St. Croix river has a basin lying in the State containing about 1300 square miles of territory or 800,000 acres.

6th. The basin of the Saco, containing 1350 square miles, or 840,000 acres, including the tributaries lying in New Hampshire, which are drained into the Saco, the aggregate territory included in Maine being equal to 5250 square miles or 3,260,000 acres.

7th. The basin of the Piscataquis, which forms our western boundary from the coast at Kittery to the mouth of Salmon Falls river, contains in both States an area of 825 square miles or 5,140,000 acres.

These seven distinct hydrographic basins or districts, embracing the largest portion of the State, form portions of its external boundary, and the entire area is wholly within the State.

A comparison of climate and natural advantages is made with other countries, and the commissioners are of opinion that the cotton manufacturers of Maine might compete with those of Louisiana as soon as the supply of capital and labor could be as cheaply afforded to our manufacturers as to theirs.

DEFICIT IN THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

The annual statement of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending 30th of June, will show an alarming deficit. In 1865 there was a surplus of \$880,400; in 1866, of \$1,000,000; in 1867, of \$1,000,000; in 1868, of \$1,000,000; in 1869, of \$1,000,000; in 1870, of \$1,000,000; in 1871, of \$1,000,000; in 1872, of \$1,000,000; in 1873, of \$1,000,000; in 1874, of \$1,000,000; in 1875, of \$1,000,000; in 1876, of \$1,000,000; in 1877, of \$1,000,000; in 1878, of \$1,000,000; in 1879, of \$1,000,000; in 1880, of \$1,000,000; in 1881, of \$1,000,000; in 1882, of \$1,000,000; in 1883, of \$1,000,000; in 1884, of \$1,000,000; in 1885, of \$1,000,000; in 1886, of \$1,000,000; in 1887, of \$1,000,000; in 1888, of \$1,000,000; in 1889, of \$1,000,000; in 1890, of \$1,000,000; in 1891, of \$1,000,000; in 1892, of \$1,000,000; in 1893, of \$1,000,000; in 1894, of \$1,000,000; in 1895, of \$1,000,000; in 1896, of \$1,000,000; in 1897, of \$1,000,000; in 1898, of \$1,000,000; in 1899, of \$1,000,000; in 1900, of \$1,000,000; in 1901, of \$1,000,000; in 1902, of \$1,000,000; in 1903, of \$1,000,000; in 1904, of \$1,000,000; 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